



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE

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SOYBEAN YIELDS UP FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST

Results from a survey conducted September 1 by the Virginia Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service indicated that Virginia's soybean yield prospects have increased since the last forecast on August 1. Timely rains coupled with warm, sunny conditions have improved crop conditions.

Soybean producers expect to harvest an average of 28 bushels per acre from 580,000 acres, an increase of 4 bushels per acre from the previous forecast of 24 bushels per acre on August 1. Production is expected to total more than 16.2 million bushels.

Virginia corn yields are expected to average 65 bushels per acre, unchanged from the previous forecast on August 1. Production is expected to total 20.8 million bushels, which is down 52 percent from last year.

The state's cotton yield is forecast at 673 pounds per acre, down from 713 pounds per acre on August 1. Cotton producers will harvest 82,000 acres in 2010 which is up 19,000 acres from the previous year. Production is expected to total 115 thousand bales.

The state's peanut yield is forecast to be 2,400 pounds per acre. This is a 200 pound per acre increase from the August forecast. Production is expected to total 43.2 million pounds from 18,000 acres for harvest.

Burley tobacco yield is forecast to be 2,200 pounds per acre, bringing total production to 3.5 million pounds from 1,600 acres. Last year's average yield was 2,140 pounds per acre with a total production of 4.3 million pounds harvested from 2,000 acres.

Flue tobacco yield has an increase of 250 pounds per acre from the previous forecast to 2,450 pounds per acre. Production is expected to total 42.9 million pounds from 17,500 acres.

Fire tobacco yield is forecast to be 2,350 pounds per acre. Production is forecast at nearly 1.65 million pounds from 700 acres.

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Cooperating with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Corn Production Down 2 Percent from August Forecast
Soybean Production Up 1 Percent
Cotton Production Up 2 Percent

U.S. **corn** production is forecast at a record 13.2 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the August forecast, but up from the previous record of 13.1 billion bushels set in 2009. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 162.5 bushels per acre, down 2.5 bushels from the previous month and 2.2 bushels below last year's record of 164.7 bushels. Forecasted yields decreased from last month throughout much of the Corn Belt, Tennessee Valley, and Delta. Yields were up from August in the lower portions of the Southeast.

Soybean production is forecast at a record high 3.48 billion bushels, up 1 percent from August and 4 percent above last year. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record high 44.7 bushels per acre, up 0.7 bushel from both last month and last year. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher or unchanged across the central and northern Corn Belt, with the exception of Michigan. The largest increases in yield from last month are expected in Maryland and Virginia, both up 4 bushels. With the exceptions of Louisiana and the Carolinas, yields are forecast down across the Delta States, Southern Great Plains, and Southeast. The largest decline from the August 1 forecast is expected in Oklahoma, down 7 bushels as drought conditions across much of the State hampered yield expectations. If realized, the forecasted yield in Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, and North Dakota will be a record high. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 78.0 million acres, unchanged from June but up 2 percent from 2009.

All U.S. **cotton** production is forecast at 18.8 million 480-pound bales, up 2 percent from last month and up 55 percent from last year's 12.2 million bales. Yield is expected to average 839 pounds per harvested acre, up 62 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 18.3 million 480-pound bales, 56 percent above 2009. Yields in the Delta region are expected to decrease from last month, while producers in Texas are expecting increased yields. American Pima production, forecast at 497,800 bales, was carried forward from last month.

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